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| /var/folders/1s/3kz_212d4fs9k63bzm3f0tjm0000gn/T/com.microsoft.Word/Content.MSO/CD169C2.tmp. | **REPORT**  ***From the office of the…***  **Science Caucus** |
| TO: | Members of the Student Representative Assembly |
| FROM: | Simranjeet Singh, SRA Science Co-leader |
| SUBJECT: | Hong Kong 12 Solidarity Statement Memo - SRA 20M |
| DATE: | Sunday, January 24th, 2021 |

The rights of those in the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region have continually been infringed upon in recent years. The People’s Republic of China (PRC) has proven to not stand by the “One Country, Two Systems Agreement” and has worked to reduce the autonomy of Hong Kong, as well as the ability for the Hong Kong people to express dissent, free speech, freedom of association, and other basic human rights and freedoms1.

The people of Hong Kong as well as those of Chinese origin also face uncertainty even outside the political jurisdiction of China, as the National Security Law unilaterally allows the PRC to assert jurisdiction outside of it borders in the name of national security2.

This memo is regarding the recent actions of the government of the PRC to detain 12 pro-democracy dissidents fleeing from the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region3. The individuals were detained without charged, denied access to family, and not given access to fair legal representation4. This event is an example of brazen infringement on the democratic rights of the Hong Kong people, and represents an ever-growing expansion of authoritarianism outside of mainland China5.

This concern was raised by constituents of Hong Kong origin who are unable to freely express themselves due to the danger they feel for their safety and the safety of their family. Multiple human rights organizations have condemned the actions of the Chinese government, as have other Canadian student unions, and even 25 Canadian Members of Parliament3,5-8.

We hope that the SRA acknowledges the previous statement ratified on November 17th, 2019, and uses the precedent set to condemn ongoing human rights violations in Hong Kong so to stand in solidarity both with the Hong Kong 12 as well as SRA constituents in the McMaster community.

Best,

Simranjeet Singh

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